

Message Text

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ACTION EA-13

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EUR-10 PM-03 CIAE-00 INR-11

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SP-02 NSC-07 NSCE-00 AID-10 PRS-01

DODE-00 L-02 DRC-01 /076 W
----- 033868

R 051010Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0670
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
USLO PEKING
CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 6853

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, JA, VN, LA
SUBJECT: JAPAN-DRV RELATIONS

REF: A) TOKYO 11322
B) TOKYO 10996
C) TOKYO 10567

BEGIN SUMMARY: JAPANESE EMBASSY COUNSELOR, JUST BACK
FROM HANOI, REPORTS FURTHER PROGRESS IN NEGOTIATIONS AND
BELIEVES ESTABLISHMENT OF EMBASSY IN HANOI STILL POSSIBLE
BY SEPTEMBER 21, FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF GOJ-DRV COMMUNIQUE
ON SUBJECT. DRV HAS APPARENTLY ACCEPTED JAPANESE POSI-
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TION ON PRG. GOJ NOW CONSIDERING AMOUNT OF GRANT

ASSISTANCE, WHICH WILL BE LABELLED "NON-REIMBURSABLE AID" AND NOT "REPARATIONS". END SUMMARY

1. JAPANESE EMBASSY COUNSELOR NISHIYAMA INFORMED DCM SEPTEMBER 4 OF OUTCOME OF HIS WEEK'S NEGOTIATIONS IN HANOI. HE STRESSED THAT HE WAS SPEAKING IN STRICTEST CONFIDENCE, AND PROTECTION OF INFO AND SOURCE PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT IN LIGHT REF A.

2. ACCORDING TO NISHIYAMA, ISSUES RAISED BY DRV--THAT HAD IMPEDED ESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS EVER SINCE ISSUANCE OF SEPTEMBER 21, 1973 COMMUNIQUE AND, MORE PARTICULARLY, SINCE NEGOTIATIONS BEGAN HERE LAST DECEMBER --NOW APPEAR TO HAVE BEEN RESOLVED. DRV APPEARS TO HAVE ACCEPTED GOJ POSITION ON PRG. GOJ WILL NOT AGREE TO ANY PERMANENT PRG REPRESENTATION IN JAPAN BUT WILL PERMIT VISITS TO JAPAN BY PRG DELEGATIONS WITH PRG DOCUMENTATION. GOJ, HOWEVER, WILL ISSUE TO THEM "LAISSEZ-PASSERS", NOT VISAS. THIS WAS THE BASIS ON WHICH THE PRG TABLE-TENNIS TEAM WAS ADMITTED LAST JUNE. GOJ WILL CONTINUE TO REFUSE OTHER DELEGATIONS WITH POLITICAL COLORATION, SUCH AS GROUP INVITED BY JAPANESE COMMUNIST PARTY LAST MONTH FOR ANTI-BOMB CONFERENCE.

3. ON SECOND MAJOR ISSUE--NATURE AND AMOUNT OF AID--DRV HAS EVIDENTLY DROPPED INSISTENCE ON TERM "WAR REPARATIONS" IN DESCRIBING GRANT ASSISTANCE AND HAS SETTLED FOR TERM "NON-REIMBURSABLE AID." ON THE AMOUNT, ALTHOUGH NISHIYAMA DID NOT GO INTO GREAT DETAIL, WE GATHERED THAT DRV IS NOW WILLING TO SETTLE FOR APPROXIMATELY 14.1 BILLION YEN AND THAT THIS PROPOSAL NOW BEING CONSIDERED IN TOKYO. FIGURE IS APPROXIMATE YEN EQUIVALENT OF AMOUNT GRANTED TO GVN IN 1959 AS REPARATIONS. IT IS HIGHER THAN THE 10 BILLION YEN GOJ OFFERED IN JULY (REF C), BUT ONLY ABOUT ONE-THIRD OF AMOUNT DRV ORIGINALLY SOUGHT. WE DID NOT DISCUSS PERIOD WHICH THIS AID WOULD COVER.

4. MISHIYAMA INDICATED THAT, AS REGARDS THIRD ISSUE, IF GOJ ACCEPTS 14.1-BILLION-YEN FIGURE AND NO OTHER OBSTACLES ARISE, JAPANESE COULD ESTABLISH EMBASSY IN HANOI BY
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SEPTEMBER 21 ANNIVERSARY, WHICH HE DESCRIBED AS HIS "PERSONAL DEADLINE." WHILE IN HANOI, NISHIYAMA AND PARTY INSPECTED POSSIBLE OFFICE AND HOUSING FACILITIES. FIRST CHARGE, PENDING APPOINTMENT OF AMBASSADOR, WOULD BE FIRST SECRETARY YUKIO IMAGAWA FROM VIENTIANE.

5. COMMENT: WE CANNOT JUDGE WHETHER NISHIYAMA IS CORRECT IN ANTICIPATING PROMPT GOJ ACTION OR AGREEMENT TO THESE

ARRANGEMENTS. HE HAS, HOWEVER, BEEN PRINCIPAL PARTICI-
PANT IN NEGOTIATIONS FOR LAST NINE MONTHS. IN ANY EVENT,
WE STRESS AGAIN IMPORTANCE OF PROTECTING INFO AND SOURCE.
WHITEHOUSE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: RECOGNITION, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, COMMUNIQUEs, GRANTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 SEP 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: shawdg
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974VIENTI06853
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740246-0437
From: VIENTIANE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740971/aaaachsw.tel
Line Count: 119
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: A) TOKYO 11322
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: shawdg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <24 APR 2002 by rowelle0>; APPROVED <04 MAR 2003 by shawdg>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: JAPAN-DRV RELATIONS
TAGS: PFOR, JA, VN, LA, PRG
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005